

THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A system supporting common consumption of media, the system comprising:

a first television display at a first home;

a first storage in the first home, the first storage supporting consumption of the media by the first television display, and having a first network protocol address with respect to a first user in the first home;

a second television display at a second home that is separate and distinct from the first home; a second storage in the second home, the second storage supporting consumption of the media by the second television display, and having a second network protocol address with respect to a second user in the second home, wherein the second user is known to the first user;

a communication network; and

server software that maintains a user defined association of the first and second network protocol addresses and that receives a request identifying one of the associated first and second network protocol addresses and responds by identifying the other of the associated first and second network protocol addresses to support delivery via the communication network of the media from the first storage to the second home for simultaneous consumption by the first and second television displays under control of a user at the first home.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the media comprises one or more of audio, still pictures, video, and/or data.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the media comprises real-time video.

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first and second network protocol addresses are one of an Internet protocol (IP) address, a media access control (MAC) address, or an electronic serial number (ESN).

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the communication network comprises one or more of a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and/or a wireless infrastructure.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein consumption comprises one or more of playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and/or displaying data.

8. (Currently amended) A system supporting common consumption of media, the system comprising:

a first storage in a first home that stores the media, and having a first network protocol address with respect to a first user in the first home;

a second television display at a second home that is separate and distinct from the first home, and having a second network protocol address with respect to a second user in the second home;

a third television display at a third home that is separate and distinct from the first and second homes, and having an associated third network protocol address with respect to a third user in the third home, wherein the first, second and third users are known to one another;

set top box circuitry, in the first home, communicatively coupled to deliver the media from the first storage, to the second and third television displays;

a communication network; and

server software that maintains a user defined association of the first, ~~and~~ second and third network protocol ~~and~~ addresses and that receives a request identifying the associated first network protocol address and responds by identifying the associated second and third network protocol addresses to support delivery via the communication network of the media from the first storage to the second and third television displays for concurrent consumption under control of a user at the first home.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the media comprises one or more of audio, still pictures, video, and/or data.

10. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the media comprises real-time video.

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8 wherein one or more of the first, second, and/or third network protocol addresses comprise an Internet protocol (IP) address, a media access control (MAC) address, and an electronic serial number (ESN).

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the communication network comprises one or more of a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and/or a wireless infrastructure.

13. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8 wherein consumption comprises one or more of playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and/or displaying data.

15. (Original) The system of claim 8 further comprising a first television display at the first home, and the user at the first home simultaneously consuming the media using the first television display.

16. (Currently amended) A system supporting common consumption of media, the system comprising:

a first television display at a first home;

a first storage in the first home that stores the media;

a second television display at a second home that is separate and distinct from the first home;

set top box circuitry, in the first home, communicatively coupled to deliver the media from the first storage, to the second television display;

a communication network; and

server software that coordinates delivery via the communication network of the media from the first storage to the second television display for simultaneous consumption of the media at the first and second television displays under control of a user at the first home.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the media comprises one or more of audio, still pictures, video, real-time video, and/or data.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the communication network comprises one or more of a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and/or a wireless infrastructure.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein consumption comprises one or more of playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and/or displaying data.

21. (Original) The system of claim 16 further comprising: a media peripheral at the second home; and the user at the first home having control of at least one function of the media peripheral at the second home.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the media peripheral comprises one or more of a stereo system, a digital still camera, a digital video camera, a digital camcorder, a digital audio recorder, a personal computer, a PDA, a liquid crystal display (LCD), a plasma display, and/or a CRT display.

23. (Original) The system of claim 16 further comprising: a server for storing 3rd party media; and the server software supporting delivery of the 3rd party media to at least one of the first and second television displays.

24. (Currently amended) A system supporting common consumption of media, the system comprising:

set top box circuitry, in a first home, communicatively coupled to deliver the media from a first storage at the first home, to a second television display at a second home that is separate and distinct from the first home; and

software that coordinates delivery via a communication network of the media from the first storage to the second television display for concurrent consumption of the media at a first television display at the first home and the second television display under control of a user at the first home.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein the media comprises one or more of audio, still pictures, video, real-time video, and/or data.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein the communication network comprises one or more of a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and/or a wireless infrastructure.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein consumption comprises one or more of playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and/or displaying data.

29. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein a media peripheral is located at the second home; and the user at the first home having control of at least one function of the media peripheral at the second home.

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein the media peripheral comprises one or more of a stereo system, a digital still camera, a digital video camera, a digital camcorder, a digital audio recorder, a personal computer, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a liquid crystal display (LCD), a plasma display, and/or a cathode ray tube (CRT) display.

31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein the software supporting delivery of third party media to one or both of the first and second television displays.